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OPERATING PROCEDURE

HEAT RELATED EMERGENCIES

Effective Date: Revised:

November 1, 1986 October 1, 2000

Approved By:

Approved By Operational Medical Director:

mak Frake

BLS

- 1. Perform initial patient assessment including temperature (tympanic, oral or rectal). Obtain pertinent medical history
- 2. Establish and maintain patent airway, administer OXYGEN, and provide ventilatory assistance as required
- 3. Relocate patient to a cool environment out of direct sunlight
- 4. Treat specific injuries as identified below:
- ✓ Heat Cramps (Muscle cramping or spasms):
 - □ Remove or loosen clothing
 - □ Have patient rest
 - □ Replace fluids by mouth (water or 1/2 strength commercial electrolyte solution); give nothing by mouth if nauseated
- ✓ Heat Exhaustion:
 - □ Remove or loosen clothing
 - □ Have patient lie down
 - □ If symptomatic, treat for shock
 - □ Replace fluids by mouth (water or 1/2 strength commercial electrolyte solution); give nothing by mouth if nauseated or if patient is not fully alert
- ✓ Heat Stroke:
 - □ Remove clothing, treat for shock
 - □ Treat patient for shock
 - □ Cover patient with wet towels or sheets, and direct fans or air conditioning towards patient. Do not induce shivering

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ALS ONLY

- 5. Connect patient to cardiac monitor, document rhythm strip, and treat life-threatening dysrhythmias as outlined in appropriate protocol
- 6. Establish 1 or 2 large bore IV lines of 0.9% Sodium Chloride. Initiate fluid resuscitation as necessary to maintain an acceptable blood pressure. If patient has an acceptable blood pressure, then infuse Sodium Chloride as follows:
 - □ If the adult patient is normotensive, infuse a 500 ml bolus
 - □ If the adult patient is hypertensive infuse Sodium Chloride at KVO rate
 - □ Infuse Sodium Chloride in the pediatric patient as outlined in OP 6.2.01
- 7. If patient is hypoglycemic and symptomatic administer DEXTROSE:
 - □ Adult: D₅₀ 25 grams/50 cc (1 amp) IV Push. May be repeated once as needed.
 - □ Pediatric: D₂₅ or D_{12.5} at dosage recommended by the Broselow Resuscitation Tape, not to exceed 2 doses
- 8. Refer to seizure protocol as needed for associated seizure activity.

MEDICAL CONTROL ONLY

9. Other interventions or medications as directed by OLMC